

## NATIONAL LEAGUE OPENS APRIL 14

Pitcher Cannot Soil a New Ball  
on Ground or on His  
Clothes.

NEW YORK, February 27.—Though winter's chill still hovers over the cities where the game is played, baseball fans to-day are able at least to map out the campaigns for the coming season of the various clubs in the two major leagues, for, following the action of the American League yesterday, the National League to-day made public its schedule of playing dates.

Like that of the American League, the National season will open April 14th, but will close one day earlier—October 11th. Each club, however, will play 154 games—the same as allotted to the American clubs. As in the arrangement of the American schedule, the Eastern and Western clubs of the National will open in their respective territories, Boston playing at Brooklyn, New York at Philadelphia, Chicago at Cincinnati, and Pittsburgh at St. Louis.

The two leagues finished their business sessions and adjourned to-day, and the national commission also ended its work by adopting the amended rules relating to the purchase of players which were suggested at the meeting in Cincinnati last month.

At the session of the National League it was decided that all admission tickets to games this season must bear the union label, and a resolution was adopted approving the action taken by the American League and the national commission on the question of invasion of territory.

The prerogatives previously held by a pitcher, to soil a ball before it is put into play, received its death thrust at the hands of the joint rules committee. As the rule now stands, a pitcher may not rub a ball on the ground or any portion of his clothing, and may only soil it with his hands.

It was decided also that "a sacrifice hit" shall also be credited to a batsman who, when no one is out or when but one man is out, is a fly ball that is caught but results in a run being scored.

## PROSPECTS BRIGHT FOR ACADEMY TEAM

With twenty-seven applicants for baseball team ready to begin work, practice will start on the grounds of the Richmond Academy within the next few days. Much enthusiasm is manifested among the students over the outlook for a winning line, as never before has the season started with so large a number of candidates. As from three to five boys will be pitted against one another for each position, a good selection is possible, thus insuring a strong team to contest with those of the other preparatory schools of the city.

Mr. Handy, of the faculty, has been selected to coach the nine. Mr. H. Marbury Taylor, former manager of the Richmond Academy, a player for three years in both baseball and football, has been made captain. Six members of last year's team—Hice, Rose, Davidson, Lewis, Liebs and Quarles—have returned for this season. Bareford, of Randolph-Macon Academy; Mercer, of Hoga Military Academy; and Onesty, of Richmond,



HARRY D. QUARLES,  
Captain.

H. MARBURY TAYLOR,  
Manager.

have all made reputations as baseball artists, particularly Onesty, who will greatly strengthen the pitching staff. Other new applicants who have shown good promise are: Taylor, Gliman, Lefew, Augustine, Benjes and Harrison.

At the meeting of the Interpreparatory School League on March 6th a general schedule for all the teams of the league—McGuire's, Richmond High School and Richmond Academy—was drawn up, and the month of April will doubtless find these old rivals struggling for the supremacy in their annual contests. The following is a list of players and positions at Richmond Academy:

For catcher—Cason, Liebs, Benjes; pitcher—Lewis, Davidson, Onesty; first base—Quarles, Bareford, Saunders; second base—Rose, Vaughan, Augustine, Wismon; third base—Lefew, Davidson; shortstop—Mercer, Taylor, Gliman; left field—Rice, Witt, Saunders; center field—Hancock, Nott, Moore; right field—Perkins, Harrison, Cook, Willis, Ramsdell.

## SPORTING NOTES.

### Sporting Letters

The sporting editor of The Times-Dispatch will gladly answer in these columns any questions regarding sporting matters. Communications on sporting subjects will also be printed, and comments will be made. Address Sporting Editor, Times-Dispatch.

## NEWS OF THE BOXERS.

Bert Keyes, the New York lightweight boxer, formerly of Philadelphia, is to be married on Sunday in New York to Miss Frances Carroll.

Joe Walcott refused to stop smoking in a Boston hotel on a few nights ago, and the motorcade hit him a punch in the jaw that put him out.

Tom O'Rourke will reopen his National Sporting Club in New York on March 9th. The main attraction will probably be Spike Robson and Battling Hurley.

Young Tommy West, of Denver, is in Philadelphia, ready to meet Jack Harris at 113 pounds. West has fought twelve times and won eight bouts by the knockout route.

As soon as his injured leg is in good shape again Willie Fitzgerald states that he will be ready to box Unk Russell at any weight, at any place for any number of rounds.

Thomas Burns, Jr., is now the manager of Battling Tommy Kelly, recently returned from England. Burns wants to match him against any middle-weight in the country.

### WHY CLEVELAND QUIT

Lost \$47,500 Trying to Make Racing Go Without Betting.

H. K. Devereaux, the leading harness horseman of Cleveland, gives some pertinent facts relative to the abandonment of the Cleveland Grand Circuit meeting for 1908, and adds: "We will probably have the track to train on and use for our matinees the better part of this summer at least, but the last meeting has been held over this historic bit of ground, and its days are numbered."

"In 1902," said Mr. Devereaux, "the betting law was first enforced, and the meeting that year lost about \$3,000. In 1904 no meeting was attempted. In 1905 one was arranged for, but abandoned at the eleventh hour, with a loss of about \$4,000. The meeting was declared off, not with the idea of saving money, for had it been carried to a finish the loss would have been no greater, if as great. Also two of the directors offered to make any loss good. The declaring off of the meeting was for the purpose of rousing the public and obtaining their sympathy, and it was with the unanimous vote of the horsemen present. In 1906 an advertised betless meeting was tried, with a loss of over \$2,500. In 1907 the experiment was tried again, with a loss of about the same amount. In five years the Cleveland Driving Park company has gone in the hole \$47,500, including \$21,000 raised by subscription. In that time the plant has deteriorated from lack of funds, and \$15,000 would not put it in more than passable condition."

"We have made a fair fight, but the odds are too great to warrant attempting a continuance of it. Over \$10,000 a year deficit is not a thing to appeal to anybody. This association, the oldest in the Grand Circuit, has stood for thirty-six years for all that is good, and as a pattern for others, but the enforcing of an obsolete and unpopular law (so far as trotting meetings are concerned) has killed it. This has been a case almost of persecution, and certainly unfair and unwarranted."

Hooker Signs in Missouri. Claude Hooker, one of the best-known baseball players of the State, will play in the Missouri Valley League this season. The contract was signed yesterday.

## February 28th in the Annals of Sport.

- 1884—At New York: Jack Dempsey defeated Jim Barry in three rounds.
- 1885—At Sydney, N.S.W.: William Beach defeated T. Clifford in sculling match for \$5,000 and champagne.
- 1889—At Boston: New England Skating Association organized.
- 1891—At Philadelphia: Pennsylvania Interscholastic Football Association organized.
- 1893—At London: James J. Jeffries won from Joe Goddard in four rounds.
- 1905—At San Francisco: Battling Nelson defeated "Young Corbett" in nine rounds.
- 1905—At Colma, Cal.: Harry Tenny received fatal injuries in a ring battle with Frankie Nell.

## REEVE HAS QUIT; WALSH RELEASED

Popular Shortstop on Richmond  
Team Will Leave Diamond  
to Practice Law.

Manager Perry H. Lippe, of the Richmond baseball team, received last night a letter from Ralph Reeve, of last year's nine, announcing that he has almost completed his course in law, and will take the examination some time in June. On this account, he says, he will have to decline the offer made him by the Richmond management and go into the practice of his profession as soon as he is admitted to the bar. The letter was dated from his home town, Lynn, Mass.

Manager Lippe is now looking for a good shortstop and a second baseman. He already, he says, has his eye on a pair of youngsters who will fill these positions, if he can land them. In such a manner that the loss of Reeve will not be seriously felt by the team. Reeve, however, is a good one, and it will take a ball player of more than ordinary calibre to occupy his place. His gentlemanly conduct on the field won him a host of warm admirers, and hundreds of fans will regret that the quiet but always capable shortstop will play in Richmond no more.

Having a heavy staff of catchers in view, Manager Lippe has thought it best to dispense with the services of Joseph ("Red") Walsh, of last year's team, who got his release yesterday. The fact that Walsh was released is no sign that he will not this year play the good ball that he has put up ever since he has been in the Virginia League.

## MISS STROME WINS DAY'S CHIEF EVENT

Victory Easy One for 2 to 1 Shot.  
Merrick Defeats Hooray in  
Hard Drive.

NEW ORLEANS, February 27.—The feature of to-day's card at City Park was the seven furlongs selling event, Merrick at 8 to 1 won the fourth race in a hard drive from Hooray by half a length. Virginia Beach, a well-backed long shot at odds of 12 to 1 won the second race by two lengths.

Weather clear; track fast. First race—three and a half furlongs—Elizabeth Harwood (9 to 2), first; Tony W. (4 to 1), second; Arcot (4 to 1), third. Time, 1:31 1-5.

Second race—six furlongs; selling—Virginia Beach (12 to 1), first; Black Mantilla (13 to 5), second; Klamath 11 (12 to 1), third. Time, 1:16.

Third race—mile and a sixteenth; selling—Flora Riley (7 to 10), first; Dorothy Ann (2 to 1), second; Fasten (20 to 1), third. Time, 1:51 2-5.

Fourth race—seven furlongs; selling—Merrick (9 to 1), first; Hooray (9 to 1), second; Ethel (5 to 1), third. Time, 1:28 4-5.

Fifth race—seven furlongs; selling—Miss Strome (2 to 1), first; Bertmont (3 to 1), second; Land Breeze (12 to 1), third. Time, 1:29.

Sixth race—six furlongs; selling—Haughty (4 to 1), first; Hocus Pocus (12 to 1), second; Grace George (20 to 1), third. Time, 1:15 3-5.

Seventh race—mile and three sixteenths; selling—Belle Scott (7 to 2), first; Lady Vincent (6 to 2), second; Flavius (12 to 1), third. Time, 2:02 2-5.

### Athletic Contents.

The second of the series in the athletic gymnastic championship contests will be held to-morrow night at 8:15 o'clock at the Young Men's Christian Association. The events will be as follows:

First, 120 yards potato race. Second, Running high kick. Third, Three exercises on the horse. Fourth, Pole vault. Fifth, Dips on the parallel bars. Entries close to-day. First place counts 5, second 3, third 2, fourth 1. In event No. 3 each contestant will select his own exercise and will be marked on the basis of form and difficulty.

### Play Two Games Here.

The Buffalo Baseball Club, which will be in training in Columbia, S. C., will play, after leaving there on April 3d, the following schedule of games: April 4th, 6th and 7th, Danville, Va.; April 8th and 9th, Lynchburg, Va.; April 10th and 11th, Roanoke, Va.; April 12th and 13th, Richmond, Va.; April 14th and 15th, Norfolk, Va.; April 17th and 18th, Lancaster, Pa.; April 19th, Scranton, Pa.; April 20th, Allentown, Pa.; April 21st, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

## NOT PREPARED FOR THE NINE HOUR LAW

(Continued From First Page.)

necessary number of operators, their employment as additions to the operating force of the road would be a serious financial hardship. He declared that the company simply did not have the money with which to pay any increased operating expenses.

George L. Potter, operating vice-president of the Baltimore and Ohio; A. R. Lawton, first vice-president of the Central of Georgia Railway, and other lines, whose representatives were heard, presented substantially the same arguments.

The hearing will probably be concluded to-morrow.

### JURY DISAGREED

Case of Watkins Against Street Car Company Result in Second Trial.

For the second time within the year a jury in the City Circuit Court failed to agree yesterday in the case of Claude Watkins against the Virginia Passenger and Power Company for \$20,000 damages. Mr. Watkins, an engineer on the Seaboard Air Line, had been struck by a car running in the opposite direction. As a result of his injuries, Watkins claims, he cannot handle a throttle again.

A member of the panel was withdrawn, and the case went over to the next term of court.

### Arrivals at the Guarant.

Among the arrivals at the Hotel Guarant yesterday were W. D. Young, North Carolina; Mr. F. S. Bruner, Unionville, Conn.; Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Scoville, New York; Mrs. C. H. Harlan, Washington; John R. Turner, Warrenton, W. O. Dubay, Virginia; P. J. Maxwell, South Carolina; Mrs. John H. Carr, Milton, Mass.; Charles E. Brown, F. D. Moten, and Miss E. B. Pollard, Aylett, Va.

### Syrian Plined.

Henry George, a Syrian, who keeps a pool-room at No. 211 West Broad Street, was fined \$25 in the Police Court yesterday for allowing two boys under age to play pool in his place. An appeal was taken.

### Real Estate.

## FARMS WANTED

Parties owning farms throughout Virginia desiring to dispose of same should let exclusively with KENNEDY-WALKER LAND & DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, Inc., Real Estate, Loans, Insurance, Main Office, Fryingburg, Virginia.

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He's a Cousin of Mine No. 534 (Hein).....Billy Murray  
I'm Happy When the Band Plays Dixie No. 539 (Vanderwey)  
The Sailor's Prayer No. 538 (Mott).....Arthur Pryor's Band  
Some Day You'll Come Back to Me No. 536 (Ball) Stanley & Macdonough  
Ring the Bells of Heaven No. 435 (Root).....Haydn Quartet

10-inch—60 cents

Captain General March No. 535 (Louka).....Arthur Pryor's Band  
Angel of Love Waltz No. 533 (Waldteufel).....Arthur Pryor's Band  
Eileen Ashburn Medley No. 534 (Waldteufel).....Arthur Pryor's Band  
The Dream Waltz (from "A Waltz Dream") No. 539  
(Oscar Straus).....Victor Orchestra (Walter B. Rogers, Conductor)  
Voice of Love Serenade No. 538 (Mott).....Ferry Hicmus  
Cornet and Flute Duet No. 537 (Clcott).....Kenke and Lyons  
Oh, Dry Those Tears No. 535 (del Riego)  
Tribulations with Band accompaniment.....Arthur Pryor  
Jewel Song from "Faust" No. 535 (Gounod).....Helene Noldi  
Prologue from "Pagliacci" No. 535 (Leoncavallo).....Alan Turner  
Good Bye, Sweetheart, Good Bye No. 531 (Von Tilzer).....Alan Turner  
The Sailor's Prayer No. 538 (Mott).....Arthur Pryor's Band  
Two Little Baby Shoes No. 539 (Morris).....Byron G. Harlan  
One Little, Sweet Little Girl (from "O'Neill of Derry")  
Bid Me Good Bye No. 537 (Tosti).....Corinne Morgan  
Jesus Christ is Risen To-day (Easter Hymn) No. 536  
Voice of Love Serenade No. 538 (Mott).....Ferry Hicmus  
Mollie Darling No. 533 (Hayes).....Haydn Quartet  
Climbing the Ladder of Love No. 534 (Englander)  
The Ninety and Nine No. 534 (Sankes).....Frederic C. Freemantel  
Red Wing No. 533 (Mills).....Dudley and Macdonough  
I'm Afraid to Come Home in the Dark No. 535  
I'm Looking for the Man that Wrote the Merry Widow Waltz  
No. 538 (Furth).....Billy Murray  
The Family Tree (from "The Collins & Harlan")  
I Got to See de Minstrel Show No. 536 (Von Tilzer).....Arthur Collins  
Victor Minstrel No. 9 Introducing "Broncho Buster" and  
"Tide of the Prairie" No. 535.....Victor Minstrel Company  
Sim and Sam (Musical Act) No. 536.....Spencer and Mozart

12-inch—\$1

The Bravest Heart May Swell (Gounod's Faust) No. 3169.....Alan Turner

### New Red Seal Records

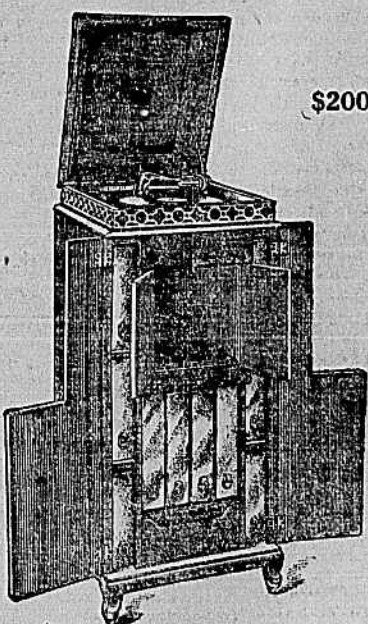
Enrico Caruso, Tenor  
Dom Sebastian (Donizetti)—In terra solo (On Earth Alone) No. 8206  
12-inch, with orchestra, \$3.—In Italian  
Johanna Gadski, Soprano  
Standchen (Richard Strauss)—Serenade No. 8016 10-inch piano accompaniment by Frank La Forge, \$2.—In German  
The Family Tree (from "The Collins & Harlan")  
No. 8111 12-inch, piano accompaniment by La Forge, \$3.—In German  
Standchen (Schubert)—Serenade No. 8111 12-inch, piano accompaniment by Frank La Forge, \$3.—In German

Bessie Abbott, Soprano  
Perla Waltz (Arditi) No. 8110 12-inch, with orchestra, \$3.—In Italian  
March Journal, Bass  
Contes d'Hoffman (Offenbach)—Air de Dapertutto (Dapertutto's Air from Act II) No. 2410 12-inch, with orchestra, \$1.50.—In French  
Barbieri (Rossini) La Calunnia (Slander's Whisper) No. 7404 12-inch, with orchestra, \$1.50.—In Italian

Geraldine Farrar—Antonio Scotti  
Don Giovanni (Mozart)—La clemenza di mano (Thy Little Hand, Love) No. 8205 12-inch, with orchestra, \$3.—In Italian  
Bessie Abbott—Mario Ancona  
Rigoletto (Verdi)—Tutte le feste al tempio Part I (On Every Festival Morning) No. 8001 12-inch, with orchestra, \$2.—In Italian  
Rigoletto (Verdi)—Tutte le feste al tempio Part II Si vendetta! (Yes, My Vengeance!) No. 8002 12-inch, with orchestra, \$2.—In Italian

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